ABSTRACT

A composite material suitable for external and/or internal association with a living body comprising: a component having a surface area less than approximately 10 m^2/gm; and a first beneficial agent associated with at least a portion of the high surface area of the component, wherein the component is fabricated from a material having a hardness greater than the hardness of the first beneficial agent. The component may also be a core particle having a diameter of less than 4 microns. Preferably, the core particle is manufactured from one of a carbonaceous material, an inert and bio-soluble material, and an effervescent material.